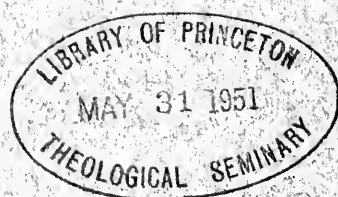


George W. Bodge

Historical Sketch of
The Norfolk Conference
of Unitarian and Other
Christian Churches

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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF

*The Norfolk Conference
of Unitarian and Other
Christian Churches.*

BY
GEORGE M. BODGE

Secretary of the Conference



OLD THEODORE PARKER
CHURCH
WEST ROXBURY, MASS.

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ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

- Page 28. *Canton*. The Canton records, and the historian of the town, spell the name "Richey," but the Dartmouth Catalogue and the Needham records have it "Ritchie."
Rev. Wm. H. Savary, Harv. Div. Sch., 1860.
- Page 32. *Dover*. Read "Rev. Ralph Sanger" instead of "Sawyer."
- Page 47. *South Natick*. Rev. Leverett R. Daniels, born in Florence, Mich.; Grad. State Coll. of Michigan; Meadville Special Course, 1885; installed, 1893.



HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF

The Norfolk Conference of Unitarian and Other Christian Churches

PREPARED FOR AND READ AT
THE ONE HUNDREDTH SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE, HELD
AT RANDOLPH, JUNE 12, 1900

WITH BRIEF SKETCHES OF THE CHURCHES NOW BELONGING TO THE CONFERENCE
AND LISTS OF THEIR MINISTERS, TO THE PRESENT TIME

Illustrated

BY GEORGE M. BODGE

Minister of the First Parish in Westwood, and Secretary of the Conference

PRINTED FOR THE CONFERENCE
1900

PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF THE CONFERENCE.

Presidents.

HON. JOHN C. PARK, Roxbury, four years, 1866-1869 and 1871.

J. MASON EVERETT, Esq., Canton, nine years, 1869-1870 and 1872-1879.

RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS, Esq., Dorchester, fourteen years, in two terms, 1879-1890 and 1894-1897.

HON. JOHN LOWELL, Brookline, three years, 1891-1894.

EDWIN J. LEWIS, JR., Esq., Dorchester, three years, 1897-1900.

FRANK SMITH, Esq., Dedham, 1900.

Secretaries.

REV. CHARLES C. SEWALL, Medfield, 1866-1868.

REV. FREDERIC HINCKLEY, Dorchester, 1868-1870.

REV. J. H. WIGGIN, Medfield, 1870-1873.

REV. FRANCIS C. WILLIAMS, Hyde Park, 1873-1879.

REV. JOSEPH P. SHEAFE, South Natick, 1879-1881.

REV. WILLIAM H. SAVARY, Canton, 1881-1885.

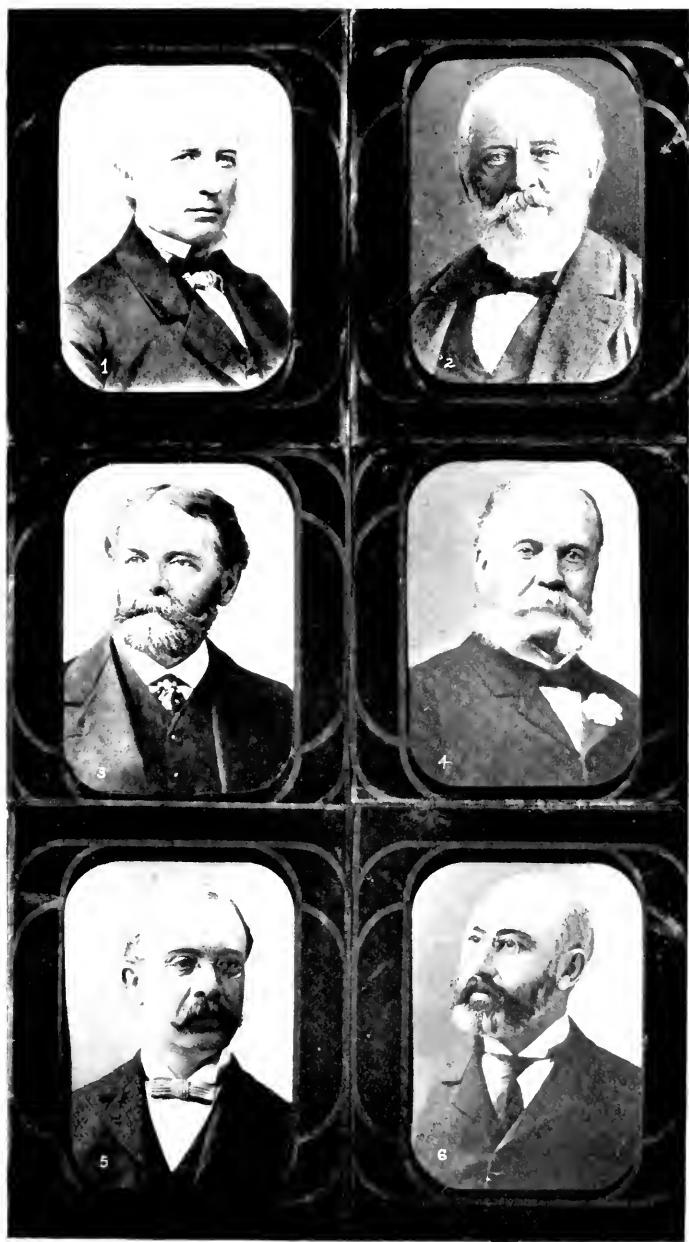
REV. JAMES HUXTABLE, Hyde Park, 1885-1889.

REV. GEORGE H. BADGER, South Natick, 1889-1891.

REV. EDMUND Q. S. OSGOOD, Hyde Park, 1891-1897.

REV. ARTHUR G. PETTENGILL, Hyde Park, 1897-1899.

REV. GEORGE M. BODGE, Westwood, 1899.



PRESIDENTS OF THE CONFERENCE, 1866-1901

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hon. JOHN C. PARK | 3. J. MASON EVERETT | 5. EDWIN J. LEWIS, JR. |
| 2. Hon. JOHN LOWELL | 4. RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS | 6. FRANK SMITH |

THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE NORFOLK CONFERENCE.

BY REV. GEORGE M. BODGE.

The first meeting of the Norfolk Conference of Unitarian and other Christian churches was held at Dedham, Dec. 5, 1866. This meeting was for the purpose of organization, and was composed of the pastors and delegates from Unitarian societies within the limits of Norfolk County.

Hon. John S. Sleeper, of Roxbury, was chosen temporary President, and Ebenezer Clapp, of Dorchester, temporary Secretary. The following societies were represented at this meeting: Mt. Pleasant, Roxbury, by pastor and four delegates; First Parish, Dedham, by pastor and six delegates; Third in Dedham, by pastor and six delegates; Jamaica Plain, by pastor and five delegates; West Roxbury, by one delegate; First Parish, Dorchester, by pastor and five delegates; Third Parish in Dorchester, by pastor and five delegates; First Parish in Milton, by pastor and five delegates; Canton, by six delegates; Medfield, by three delegates; Dover, by pastor and two delegates; South Natick, by pastor and two delegates; Sherborn, by pastor and three delegates. All but the last two were within the county limits. The Unitarian societies not represented at this meeting were the First Parishes in Roxbury, Brookline, Sharon, Walpole, and Quincy, and the societies at Neponset, and Harrison Square in Dorchester. The First Parish in Cohasset is mentioned also as one of the group of societies not represented. The records of this meeting note the fact that three members of the West Norfolk Association of Ministers, viz., Rev. Solon

W. Bush, of Roxbury, Rev. Adams Ayer, of Roxbury, and Rev. John M. Merrick, of Foxboro, were present. The organization of the Conference was effected by the choice of the following officers : —

President, Hon. John C. Park.

Vice-Presidents, Rev. John H. Morison, D.D., Hon. Stephen M. Weld.

Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. Charles C. Sewall.

Directors, Rev. Nathaniel Hall, William Chickering, Esq., Rev. T. B. Forbush, J. Mason Everett, Esq., Rev. Henry Wescott, John J. May, Esq.

Rev. Charles Lowe, Secretary of the American Unitarian Association, was present, and, by invitation, addressed the meeting, urging the need of a union of the churches of the liberal faith into an active working body, for mutual sympathy and religious improvement, and for the general interests of truth and righteousness in the land. After due consideration and discussion a constitution was adopted. This was amended from time to time, and in 1891 was revised, and printed in full. The following is the revised Constitution of 1891 : —

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be known as The Norfolk Conference of Unitarian and other Christian churches.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to promote the religious life and mutual sympathy of the churches which unite in it, and to co-operate in missionary work, and in raising funds for various Christian purposes.

ART. 3. The members of this Conference shall be the pastor and as many delegates as may be present from every parish included in its roll.

ART. 4. The officers of this Conference shall be a President, who shall be a layman ; two Vice-Presidents, one layman and one minister ; six Directors, three laymen (or laywomen) and three ministers ; and a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be a minister. The President, Vice-President, and Secretary and Treasurer shall be chosen annually at the fall meeting of the Conference ;

and two Directors shall also be elected at the same meeting, to hold office for three years.

ART. 5. There shall be not less than three meetings of the Conference each year.

ART. 6. The officers of this Conference constitute a Board of Directors, which shall meet from time to time to consult upon the interests of the organization. They shall arrange for the meetings of the Conference and have general charge of its concerns.

ART. 7. The officers of the Conference and the pastor and one delegate from each parish in the Conference shall constitute a Committee of Christian Enterprise. This committee shall meet at least two weeks before each meeting of the Conference, upon call of the Secretary of the Conference, and shall carefully consider what missionary or other enterprise, if any, the Conference shall undertake within its own borders; by what means necessary funds for such undertaking, if any, shall be raised; and in what manner it could best be prosecuted; and it shall report the result of its deliberations in the form of definite recommendations at the following meeting of the Conference, which recommendations, if approved by the Conference, shall be executed by the Board of Directors, or by any other committee so instructed by the Conference.

ART. 8. Parishes may be admitted to the Conference by majority vote of members present at a regular meeting of the Conference.

ART. 9. Changes to this Constitution may be made by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

Action was taken, and a committee appointed to secure the union and co-operation of the churches of the county of the Unitarian or liberal faith not represented at this meeting.

It is recorded that at 12.45 P.M. "the Conference adjourned to the vestry of the church, where a bountiful collation was provided by the ladies of the Dedham parish, and very pleasant social intercourse was enjoyed."

Two resolutions adopted at this meeting are worthy of recalling at this time. The first, offered by Mr. Park, the Vice-President having the chair, recommended the calling together of all the young men in the various churches, by their pastors, to endeavor to have them form themselves into

a young men's conference for auxiliary work under the direction of their pastors, "for their own spiritual growth and the advancement of the kingdom of Christ." The second, offered by James P. Walker, Esq., was a declaration of loyalty to the American Unitarian Association and a pledge to co-operate with it in its missionary enterprises. An Executive Committee of five members of this Conference was chosen to advise and co-operate with the Secretary of the American Unitarian Association, and the churches, in securing certain specified and proportionate sums for the Association's missionary work. After prayer, by Dr. Morison, this first meeting of the Norfolk Conference adjourned, and the record is signed by the revered name of Charles C. Sewall, Secretary.

Most of the venerated men, if not all, who were active in this first meeting have long since passed away, while their work, in its noble results, and their purposes and growing responsibilities remain to us while we assemble now, on this one hundredth session, and seek to tell over something of what they *meant*, what they *tried* to do, and what they *did*.

The records show that many meetings were held by the officers of the Conference, and that much devoted and diligent work was done by the committees in the effort to organize the active *local* work of the Conference, and to strengthen its power by adding to its membership the other churches of the county. The weaker churches were also remembered, and their present needs noted. What we should now call an "Outlook Committee" was also investigating several locations within the limits of the county with a view to starting a new liberal society.

At the meeting of the Directors April 8, 1867, it was voted to invite the Universalist ministers Dr. Patterson, of Roxbury, and Rev. Mr. Hill, of South Dedham (now Norwood), to be present at the next meeting of the Conference and take part in the discussions. A copy of the letters addressed by President Park to these two ministers is

preserved in the records, and reveals the broad and sweet Christian spirit which characterized the endeavors of these noble founders of this Conference.

The second meeting of the Conference was held with the Mt. Pleasant Church in Roxbury, Rev. C. J. Bowen, Pastor, April 24, 1867. Nineteen churches were present by pastor or delegates, including the two Universalist churches referred to above. The address of the morning session was by Rev. Dr. Hall, of Dorchester, upon the question, "How To Make the Services of Public Worship More Interesting and Effective." It appears that after ninety-nine sessions we still have the same old problem under advisement. The discussion which followed is quite fully reported in the records and is of deep interest, not only from the personality of the speakers, but for the inspiring thoughts advanced, and also as showing the tendencies of religious methods in worship in that time. Among the ministers who participated in this discussion were Rev. Horatio Alger, South Natick, Rev. Charles J. Bowen, of Mt. Pleasant Church, Rev. C. S. Locke, of West Dedham, Rev. Frederick Hinekey, of Harrison Square, Rev. B. H. Bailey, of Dedham, Rev. Henry Westcott, West Dedham, Rev. Geo. H. Hepworth, of Boston, and Rev. A. J. Patterson, of the First Universalist Church, Roxbury. President Park also took part, and the discussion continued through both forenoon and afternoon sessions, with collations and hymns, etc., intervening.

At the next meeting, held at Sherborn, Oct. 9, 1867, the numbers were less, but the zeal and vigor of debate upon the practical problems not a whit abated. The question was the "Communion Service," and the intense interest of the discussion, which continued from the opening address by Mr. Park through both sessions, is revealed in the twenty-four pages of *closely-written* report in the old record-book.

The Conference then adopted the following resolution offered by Rev. Mr. Bowen, of Mt. Pleasant Church: —

“Resolved, That we, the members of this Conference, ministers and laity, deeply impressed with the importance of the Communion Service, as a means of spiritual growth and Christian life, will, from this time, make more earnest efforts to create a new interest and a more general participation in the Lord’s Supper in our several churches.”

The next meeting was held at Hyde Park, Dec. 18, 1867. This was the annual meeting, and there was a large attendance. The theme of the day was “Missionary Effort,” introduced in an address by Rev. Dr. Morison. The discussion occupied most of the time of the forenoon session, and is quite fully reported. The main purpose seems to have been to stir up the churches to raise money for denominational expansion. The afternoon was given up to a brief business meeting, at which it appeared that twenty-two societies, including the two Universalist churches above noted, were represented. Nearly the same Board of Officers was elected; and then the topic of a “Denominational Building” was discussed with much enthusiasm.

The next session was at Medfield, June, 24, 1868. A public meeting was held the previous evening, at which many of the pastors and delegates of the Conference were present and listened to an inspiring sermon by Rev. Rush. R. Shippen, of Worcester. The Conference essay was read by Rev. C. J. Bowen, of Mt. Pleasant Church, upon the topic, “How Can the Christian Church Maintain Its Rightful Position and Influence in Promoting the Moral and Religious Life and Force of the Community?” Rev. Mr. Sewall, the Secretary, reports this essay as “admirable in diction, spirit, purpose, and delivery.” The discussion continued for the whole morning session, and was joined in by several Universalist ministers, the question of the Communion Service again coming to the front. The report of this discussion covers ten pages of the records.

The afternoon session was given up to reports of the con-

dition of the various parishes. Reports were made from Canton, by Rev. Mr. Piper; Dedham, without a pastor; Dorchester, 1st, by Rev. Nathaniel Hall; Dorchester, 3d, by Rev. T. J. Mumford; Dover, by Rev. C. S. Locke; Foxboro (Universalist), by Rev. J. M. Merrick; Jamaica Plain, by Rev. Dr. Thompson; Medfield, by Mr. Charles Hamant; Mt. Pleasant, by Mr. Park; Sharon, by Rev. Mr. Stacy; Sherborn, by Rev. Mr. Brown; South Dedham (Norwood), by Rev. Mr. Hill; West Dedham (Westwood), by Rev. Mr. Gifford; South Natick, by Rev. Mr. Alger; Walpole, by Rev. Mr. Smith; Roxbury (Universalist), by Rev. Dr. Patterson. These reports cover sixteen pages of the records. At this meeting the President read a notice of a new enterprise, "The Boston School for the Ministry," set up by Rev. Mr. Hepworth, in Boston, for the education of ministers for the Unitarian and Universalist and other liberal churches. The churches of the Conference were invited to take part in a fair, to be held in Boston, to promote the interests of this school.

At the sixth meeting of the Conference, at Sharon, Oct. 25, 1868, nineteen churches were represented. The general topic under discussion was, "How To Bring Outsiders into the Church?" The burden of the discussion rested upon the fact of the discouraging outlook in the matter of "church attendance."

The seventh session of the Conference was held at Walpole, Dec. 16, 1868. A new Board of Officers was chosen, some of whom were: J. Mason Everett, President; Jonathan H. Cobb, Esq., Treasurer; Rev. Frederick Hinckley, Secretary; two ladies, Mrs. J. H. Morison and Miss Ann Eliza Clapp, and Rev. George Hill (Universalist), on the Board of Directors. Several topics instead of one were discussed at this meeting, and a resolution in reference to "missionary preaching and labor within the limits of the Conference" was referred to the Board of Officers. At this meeting the con-

tribution amounted to \$62. At this meeting, also, Rev. Leonard J. Livermore, Secretary of the General Sunday-school Society, was present and addressed the Conference.

The Directors met March 22, 1869, and considered the matter of missionary work within the limits of the Conference, and decided, after consultation with the officers of the American Unitarian Association, that instead of employing a special agent, as had been suggested, to visit the various outlying neighborhoods, for the distribution of books and other reading-matter, this labor should be undertaken by each society in its own town and vicinity, districting the locality and thoroughly investigating the condition of the people, and doing any Christian work for them which their circumstances may demand. Assignments of localities to be examined with reference to the introduction of liberal preaching were made as follows: to Rev. J. H. Wiggin, Bellingham, Charles River Village, Dover, East Walpole, Medway; Rev. George Hill, Mill Village, Dedham; Rev. W. B. Smith, South Walpole and Wrentham; Rev. Wm. Brown, Holliston; Rev. Frederick Hinckley, Braintree, Randolph, East Stoughton, Natick.

The Board also accepted an invitation from a new congregation holding Sunday evening meetings, in South Framingham, to hold the next meeting of the Conference in that place April 28 next. The Directors also selected "Parish Organization" as the topic of the next meeting, and appointed Rev. George F. Piper, of Canton, to prepare and read an essay upon that topic. They also decided to recommend to the Conference, at the next meeting, the raising of a contribution of five hundred dollars by the Conference for the General Sunday-school Society, the collection to be taken up in the churches on the second Sunday in May next following; and they assigned the amounts to be suggested as the proportion of each society.

The eighth session of the Conference was held at South Framingham, April 28, 1869, in the Baptist Church, which

had been kindly offered for the meeting by that society. The essay of Rev. Mr. Piper upon "Parish Organization" produced a lively and prolonged discussion. Mr. William H. Baldwin, President of the Young Men's Christian Union in Boston, addressed the meeting, explaining the purposes and methods of that institution as an illustration of the organization of the young. Rev. Charles Lowe, of the American Unitarian Association, was also present and took part in this discussion. Upon the appeal of the General Sunday-school Society the Conference recommended to the churches to raise in each church the amount recommended by the directors; and suggested the second Sunday in May as the day upon which the contributions should be taken up. Rev. C. J. Bowen reported for the Committee on the Fair for the Boston School for the Ministry, which was held last year, that the six hundred dollars contributed by the churches of the Conference was sent to poor people in Charleston, S. C., to purchase baskets, palmetto-work, and other work prepared by them, and that the sale of these at the Fair netted about \$1,000, of which \$650 was given to the School for the Ministry, and the balance to deserving objects of charity. The meeting of the Conference closed with an evening service and a sermon by Rev. George L. Chaney, of Boston.

At the ninth session of the Conference, held at Canton, Sept. 16, 1869, Dr. James Freeman Clarke preached a sermon upon "The Purpose of a Christian Church." Among the reports at this meeting, it was stated that the churches of the Conference had raised \$7,744.19 for the American Unitarian Association for the year 1869, and that the Association hopes next year to receive \$10,000 from the same source.

The tenth session was held with the First Parish, Dorchester, Dec. 1, 1869. An essay was read by Rev. A. J. Paterson, of Roxbury, on "Personal Religion."

The account of the first ten meetings of the Conference

has been given more fully, as recalling somewhat the tendencies of the early days, and the revered names and memories of those men who were a part, and will always remain an inspiration in all its meetings and in its work.

The meetings for the year 1870 were held: at Quincy, April 27; at Dover, June 22; at Needham, October 6; and at Jamaica Plain, December 15. The important items at the meetings for the year were the reports of the condition of the churches, by a committee. Out of the twelve parishes reported, eleven had distinct church organizations. Some held funds, the income from which was expended for the help of the poor of the church or parish, or for outside mission work, under the direction of Deacons, whose duties were to administer these funds and officiate at the Communion Service. Another interest was the mission work at Randolph, from which has grown the important society which entertains the Conference at this one hundredth session. A pleasant item also was an essay on "Distinct Church Organization," read by a lady member, Mrs. Gifford, wife of the minister at West Dedham.

The records show a membership of twenty-six societies for the year 1870. The interest in the meetings and the work was general, *The Christian Register* giving several columns of reports of each meeting. At the annual meeting Mr. J. Mason Everett, of Canton, was elected President.

In 1871 the meetings were held, April 27, at the new point of interest in mission work, Grantville, in Needham (now the strong society at Wellesley Hills). At this meeting societies and individual members pledged \$350, and the Conference appealed for \$500 more, which would make enough to pay for the new church property, already paid for in part by the people, who had settled Rev. A. B. Vorse, of Needham, as their minister. This meeting was a "Picnic" or "Basket" Conference, on account of the new conditions and the weakness of the new society.

The fall meeting, at South Natick, September 19, was also a "Basket" Conference. The chief feature of this meeting was a brilliant essay upon the question, "What Is Practical Religion?" by Rev. F. T. Washburn, of Milton. Hon. J. C. Park moved that the "Basket Collation" should be the rule at future meetings of the Conference, and that the delegates should bring their own refreshments. After discussion, it was so voted.

The annual meeting was held with the Mt. Pleasant Society, Roxbury, Dec. 7, 1871. The evening before, a meeting was held in the church, at which Rev. George Putnam preached an eloquent sermon upon "Science and Religion." At the regular session an essay, by Miss Clapp, of Dorchester, was read by her pastor, Dr. Hall, on "Popular Unitarianism Not Identical with Pure Christianity," and discussed with lively interest by a dozen of the clergy and laymen present. The old Board of Officers were elected, with one exception. The collation was served by the ladies of the Mt. Pleasant Society.

The meetings of 1872 were held: April 25, with the Third Parish in Dorchester, at which Rev. A. B. Vorse read an essay on "Bonds and Zeal;" at Harrison Square, September 19, a "Basket Collation," essay by Rev. Solon W. Bush; December 5, at Dedham, essay by Rev. A. C. Nickerson, of Neponset, upon "The Social Elements in Christian Church Life." As usual, at the annual meetings, reports of the condition of the various societies were given. The former Board of Officers, practically, was elected.

In 1873 only two meetings were held,—April 17, at Hyde Park, where the essay on "Temperance" was followed by a *lively discussion!* and at Milton, October 8. The same Board of Officers was chosen, with a few exceptions, and action was taken for aiding the society in Hyde Park to build a new church. The essay on "The Proper Organization of a Lib-

eral Christian Church," by Rev. C. C. Carpenter, was followed by an interesting discussion.

The meetings of 1874 were held: January 15, at the First Parish in Dorchester. The address of the morning was delivered by Rev. H. G. Spaulding on "The Character of Christ an Adequate Basis for a Religion," and was followed by discussion. May 13, at Brookline. "Spirituality in Religion" was the topic of the essay by Rev. W. H. Savary. Very encouraging reports of prosperity were made from the parishes, especially the Jamaica Plain Society, which had thrown off its heavy debt of \$20,000; from Neponset, Hyde Park, and Grantville. October 8, at Neponset. Address by Rev. J. W. Thompson, D.D.

In 1875 there were meetings at Quincy, January 14, address by Rev. M. J. Savage on "Christianity Notwithstanding;" May 5, at the Third Parish in Dorchester. The address was given by Rev. Nathaniel Seaver, upon "Theology and Religion Compared." A collection of \$27 was taken up at this meeting to pay towards printing the address of Rev. M. J. Savage, delivered at the last meeting.

At the annual meeting, Oct. 21, 1875, at Hyde Park, Rev. H. N. Brown, of Brookline, gave the address, upon "An American Church." Reports of a hopeful and encouraging nature came from many churches of the Conference, and a special communication from Mrs. Bowen relative to the enterprise at Tiverton, R. I. Expressions of love and sympathy were extended to Dr. Nathaniel Hall and his family in this time of his severe and dangerous illness. The former Board of Officers, with a few changes, was elected, J. Mason Everett being re-elected President.

The winter meeting was held Jan. 28, 1876, at Jamaica Plain. Addresses were made by Rev. S. C. Beach, of Dedham, and H. H. Lincoln, Esq., of East Boston. A beautiful and tender tribute was paid by Rev. J. W. Thompson to the life and character of Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Hall, of the First

Parish of Dorchester, lately deceased, and also to the life, virtues, and works of Rev. Edmund S. Sears, and resolutions were passed in token of affection and honor for them, and for Judge Wells, also a member of the Conference.

The spring meeting was held with the Mt. Pleasant Church, Roxbury, May 11, 1876. A discourse by Rev. Robert Laird Collier was the principal feature of this meeting; his topic was "Celestial Priests." Notice of the completion of the chapel at Tiverton, R. I., was received, with a cordial invitation to the members of the Conference to be present and assist in the dedicatory services, June 9, 1876. This chapel was the result, chiefly, of the zeal and continued labor of Mrs. Bowen, wife of a former pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Church, and this Conference had assisted materially in her efforts, and now accepted the courteous invitation.

The next annual meeting was held at Canton, Nov. 9, 1876. Rev. John G. Brooks, of Roxbury, was the essayist, and his topic was "The Church and the Tramp." The old Board of Officers was re-elected.

The winter meeting of 1877 was held at Dedham, February 8. General prosperity was shown from the reports of the churches. Rev. Charles F. Dole, the new associate pastor at Jamaica Plain, read a thoughtful essay upon "The Tendencies of Present Religious Thought." The essay excited great interest and an animated discussion, as did the address of Rev. S. J. Barrows in the afternoon session, which took up the matter of "Revivals," as carried on by Mr. Moody.

The summer meeting was held at West Dedham, June 20, 1877. "The Central Problem in the Religious Life of Our Age" was the topic of Dr. C. A. Bartol's eloquent address. This meeting is reported in *The Christian Register* as a "memorable occasion"—some four hundred people present, and welcomed to the generous and abundant hospitality of the parish.

The next annual meeting was held at Milton, Oct. 31,

1877. A discourse was preached in the afternoon session by Rev. William H. Channing, from England, on "The Assured Hope of Immortal Life."

At Walpole, January 23, "The Bland Silver Bill," as the subject of the address of Rev. Frederick Frothingham, was a radical innovation of the customs and usages of the Conference, but produced much interesting and profitable discussion, the chief motive of the introduction here being to teach the high duty of honesty, in public officials, in the State and Nation. At this meeting resolutions were passed, and copies sent to the Massachusetts representatives in Congress, remonstrating against the bill then pending. These resolutions were read in Congress, and General Butler made them the subject of ridicule in the House of Representatives. A copy of the Congressional report is preserved in our record-book. Others of our Congressmen responded courteously. Senator Dawes expressed his joy in knowing "that the Conference is as sound on finance as it is in theology."

The spring meeting was held, at Medfield, May 15, 1878. The essay on "Organization and Personal Freedom" was given by Rev. Calvin S. Locke, pastor of the church in Dover. An evening service was held, at which Rev. Charles G. Ames preached a sermon on "The Power of the Spirit."

The autumn meeting was held Nov. 7, 1878, at the church in Harrison Square, Dorchester. The essay on this occasion was upon "Footprints of Faith," and was given by Rev. George M. Bodge, the newly installed minister of the Third Parish in Dorchester. At this meeting, J. Mason Everett, Esq., on retiring from the position of President, received a vote of gratitude from the Conference for his long and faithful services. Mr. Richard C. Humphreys was elected to that position. Mrs. Fannie B. Ames read a very interesting report of the Women's Meeting at the Saratoga Conference.

On Feb. 5, 1879, the winter meeting was held with the First Parish in Dorchester. The address of Rev. Washing-

ton Gladden was on the subject of "Charity and Natural Law."

The spring meeting was held at West Roxbury, May 14. The address was by Rev. H. Bernard Carpenter, of Boston, on "The New Gospel; What Is It To Be?" This was a "Basket" Conference.

The fortieth session of the Conference was held at Needham, Nov. 12, 1879. Rev. Francis B. Hornbrooke, of Newton, gave the address upon the topic "Doubt." Rev. Francis C. Williams, having served as Secretary for several years, declined re-election, and Rev. J. P. Sheafe was elected in his place. The other officers were re-elected.

In 1880 the meetings were held at Hyde Park, Brookline, and Dedham. In the meetings of the last twenty years many of you here present have taken part, so that it would be monotonous to go over the sessions in detail. The records of the meetings in all those years are full of interest. It is plain that a vast, though quiet, influence has been exerted through the agency of the Conference, the inspiration of its meetings, the organization of its missionary work, and other enterprises, which could hardly have been accomplished in any other way. It will be understood that in this very brief and imperfect sketch I have simply outlined the course of the first fourteen years.

We have noted some gradual changes in the programs of the meetings, the increasing influence of women recognized by their choice into the Board of Directors and their participation in the public exercises of the meetings.

The exercises were, at first, we have seen, confined mostly to the discussion of practical questions pertaining to methods of work and worship in the churches, the organization of such forces as Unitarian constituencies afforded, the missionary responsibility of the Conference in its own county, and, later, its accountability to the American Unitarian Association, the General Sunday-school Society, etc.

Some variations in the methods of preparation for the meetings have been noted, also — one, for instance, which seems of minor importance to the visiting delegates until perhaps about half-past twelve, when it rises into first place. I refer to the *collation*. It has been at times the joy, sometimes the willingly assumed heavy burden, sometimes the *despair*, of the parishes. Numerous means have been devised to preserve the hospitable and social aspect, while seeking to lighten the burden to the smaller of the societies. The rule of “basket” conference was adopted, as we saw, only to be broken as soon as one of the larger societies had a meeting, when, holding the rule “more honored in the breach than in the observance,” they proceeded to provide an elaborate and costly banquet, largely prepared by caterers, which, bountiful and fine to enjoy, set the seal of discouragement upon any attempt of the weaker parishes to imitate, and made all ashamed to mention “baskets.” The law still stood on the record in 1880, when, at the spring meeting, the matter was brought up for settlement, and Rev. Mr. Beach proposed that a committee of ladies, one from each parish represented at that Conference (at Brookline), should settle and report their decision. The committee reported *against the baskets*, and the meeting abolished the method irrevocably. (This vote was followed by an essay on the topic “Drifting.”)

An attempt was made by the Directors in 1889 to resume the basket in the case of a small parish, but the said parish promptly “vetoed the bill.” But June 17, 1896, the “basket lunch” in Sherborn was “*pronounced a great success.*”

Great changes have come in the conditions of the parishes, by means of electric cars, which have opened up new districts in the vicinity of “Greater Boston,” and have brought the outlying parishes of the Conference within easy reach of much larger numbers of delegates than could or would ride in the old swaying and lumbering barges. Fresh interest was imparted to the meetings of the Conference by the influ-

ence which the Woman's Auxiliary exerted under the strong and able leadership of Miss Elizabeth P. Channing, of Milton, a zealous and active member of the Conference for many years.

In 1881 a resolution was offered by Rev. H. H. Faxon, of Quincy, pledging the Conference individually and collectively to the suppression of intemperance, and was unanimously adopted. Several variations of program have been tried in order to secure a larger attendance of men at the meetings, such as the holding of the meetings in the afternoon and evening, or a platform meeting the evening previous to the session. Questions, theoretical, practical, and otherwise, have been discussed, but the main object has always been mission work, in some form.

In 1890 it was voted that the Winter meetings should be Institute meetings; Spring meetings devoted to practical parish problems; and the Fall meetings, to the work of the Conference. For a few subsequent meetings this plan was followed successfully.

The Woman's Auxiliary became the National Alliance, and under *any* and *every* name proved just as true and sweet and energetic and *irrepressibly* helpful, in the Conference and everywhere else; and whatever plan of program prevailed, they were a part of it.

At the seventy-fourth session, at Medfield, June 12, 1891, a new feature was introduced in the form of a "limit bell," to limit the speakers, in discussion, those *appointed*, to twenty minutes, and *others* to five minutes each. I judge that under the kindly and sympathetic management of the President of the succeeding meetings the limits would not be very severely drawn.

I have passed over many matters of deep interest, since *I* am limited in time and space. Many things are passed which are probably mostly forgotten by those even who were among the chief actors. In all these years of continued missionary

activity, results have been accomplished by means of the aid of this Conference, of which aid little has been published.

Among the monuments of faithful aid, rendered within our own Conference, are several new and flourishing societies, the continued gifts to which, in times of need, appear in the items of our missionary work. Other weak societies there are which have been encouraged and kept alive by our frequent contributions. Gifts in manifold directions, West and South, to special charitable, educational, and religious objects, besides the constant urgency, in the meetings, to more strenuous endeavors on the part of churches and people to increase the contributions to the American Unitarian Association, with the repeated assumption of some of the Association's burdens; the General Sunday-school Society; the Boston School for the Ministry; the aid to Grantville, which joined itself to another Conference; the Marshfield Chapel; the "enterprise in Millis;" East Weymouth; Mission in Japan; Meadville; a struggling society in Nebraska; Tuskegee School; Ottawa new church; — these are but a few of the items of aid, in the line of the missionary work of the Conference. Much of its work has been done quietly, without notice, by its charity committees, in cases of personal need.

The membership has changed somewhat, partly by the absorption of Dorchester and Roxbury into "Greater Boston;" though for many years all the churches loyally kept their membership in the Norfolk, even after being included in the Suffolk, Conference. The *number* has been kept good by the growing-up of new societies in the Conference, but the new parishes have not and cannot make up the loss in the strength and prestige and courage which the three Roxbury churches afforded until their withdrawal some years ago.

The Conference in its course has done a good work, and accomplished results far other and greater than can be estimated, and I would that a record of all the later years might be set down here in permanent form. This hundredth ses-

sion is but a milestone, however, marking the way onward. The opportunities for good mission work were never greater than now, whatever change may have come in the tendencies of social and religious life. The aspects of theology, the scopes of moral accountability, ethical ideals and aspirations, are all greatly changed, but made broader and brighter and higher in the change; and still the objects for which, at the first, the Conference was formed, remain. And it is for us to realize the heritage of work into which we, as members of this Conference, have entered; and to set our faces to the front, with willing hearts and hands, to maintain the high standards of the past, and to meet the new conditions of activity, with the same courage and fidelity which have been shown by those who have preceded us in the responsibility and work.

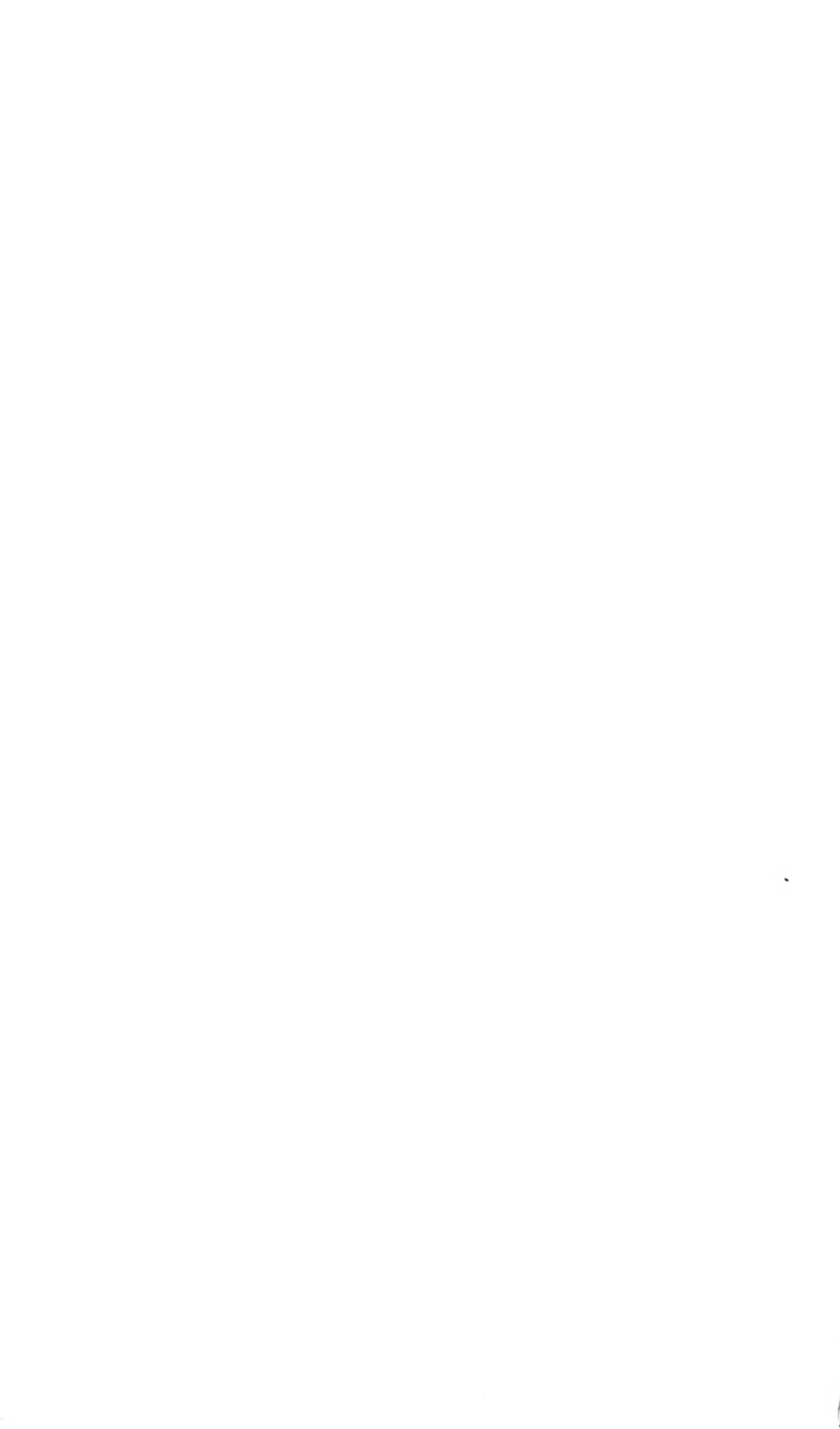
It will be well for us all, and for the Conference, and the truest tribute we can pay to the founders and workers of the years past, if, starting forth from this hundredth session, we do more and better work than ever before, maintain nobler standards of character, cherish and teach holier ideals of life, till our Conference shall fulfil the dream and prophecy of the founders, and become a growing, vitalizing force of pure and deep religion.

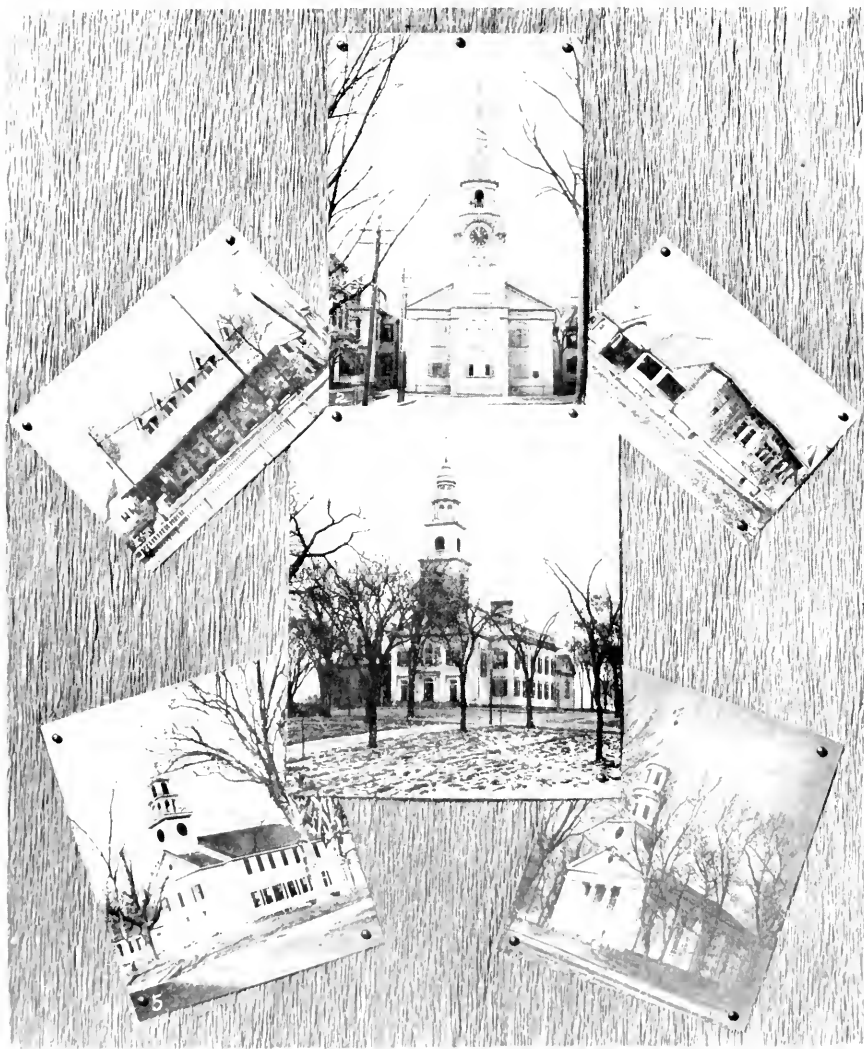
PREFATORY NOTE TO THE SKETCH OF THE
PARISHES.

I regret that it has not been possible to make the statistics concerning the churches and ministers more complete and exact. No effort has been spared to ascertain the facts, and hundreds of letters have been written in the pursuit of items of place and date, often of a single date. Some of the earlier items, in which the facts are meagre, cannot, probably, be filled. In many cases records have been lost, or were never complete; in some instances the ministers have entered our fellowship for a few years, and have gone out of our knowledge. Again, our parish records do not contain any facts about either the church or minister beyond the strictly business needs, so that everything pertaining to the birth and education of the ministers, as well as their death, must be sought elsewhere. The abbreviations are so few and simple that I hardly need to mention that H. C. stands for Harvard College, Bowd. for Bowdoin, Meadville means Meadville Theological School. When one has graduated at H. C., the "Div. Sch." means Harvard Divinity School. When only the School, it appears as "Harv. Div. Sch." Instead of "Resigned" or "Dismissed," I have placed the dash between the dates of installation and departure. The pictures have been gathered together after "much tribulation" in some instances. For some I have been obliged to make a personal pilgrimage with my camera to obtain the necessary photographs. The pictures sent me have been of various qualities, styles, and sizes, and had to be copied, and reduced or enlarged as the case required. It was intended at first to have a small separate picture of each church on the pages with the sketch, but this was found too expensive to consider, the appropriation being hardly sufficient for the paper and printing. So the groups had to be resorted to, and other means devised to make the pictures possible.

I feel grateful to all those who have so readily and kindly seconded my efforts, and hope the result may be satisfactory to them, and to all.

GEORGE M. BODGE, *Secretary.*





DORCHESTER GROUP

1. CHRIST CHURCH
2. UNITY CHURCH, NEPONSET
3. NORFOLK CHURCH
4. FIRST CHURCH, MEETING-HOUSE HILL
5. MILTON
6. THIRD CHURCH, RICHMOND STREET

THE PARISHES WHICH ARE NOW INCLUDED IN THE NORFOLK CONFERENCE.

THE FIRST PARISH IN DORCHESTER.

The Church was gathered at Plymouth, England, January, 1630. Re-organized at Dorchester, Aug. 23, 1636.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1631, the second in 1646, the third in 1677, the fourth in 1743, the fifth in 1816, the sixth in 1896.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOHN MAVERICK, born in England about 1575; came to America 1630; settled at Dorchester 1630; died Feb. 3, 1636.

REV. JOHN WARHAM, born in England; settled at Dorchester, as colleague with Mr. Maverick, in 1630; removed with a large part of the Dorchester Church to Windsor, Conn., and died April 1, 1670.

REV. RICHARD MATHER, born in Lowton, Lancashire, Eng., 1596; Oxford Univ.; settled at Dorchester, Aug. 23, 1636; died April 22, 1669.

REV. JOSIAH FLYNT, born in Braintree, Aug. 24, 1645; H. C., 1664; ordained Dec. 27, 1671; died Sept. 16, 1680.

REV. JOHN DANFORTH, born in Roxbury, Nov. 8, 1660; H. C., 1677; ordained June 28, 1682; died May 26, 1730.

REV. JONATHAN BOWMAN, born in Lexington, Feb. 23, 1704; H. C., 1724; ordained as colleague with Mr. Danforth Nov. 5, 1729—Dec. 14, 1773; died March 30, 1775.

REV. MOSES EVERETT, born in Dedham, July 15, 1750; H. C., 1771; ordained Sept. 28, 1774—Jan. 14, 1793; died March 25, 1813.

REV. THADDEUS M. HARRIS, born in Charlestown, July 7, 1768; H. C., 1787; ordained Oct. 23, 1793 — Oct. 23, 1836; died April 3, 1842.

REV. NATHANIEL HALL, Jr., born in Medford, Aug. 13, 1805; Harv. Div. Sch., 1834; ordained July 16, 1835, as colleague with Mr. Harris; died Oct. 21, 1875.

REV. SAMUEL J. BARROWS, born in New York City; Harv. Div. Sch., 1875; ordained Nov. 2, 1876 — Dec. 31, 1881.

REV. CHRISTOPHER R. ELIOT, born in St. Louis, Mo.; Harv. Div. Sch., 1881; ordained Feb. 2, 1882 — April 6, 1893.

REV. EUGENE R. SHIPPEN, born in Worcester; Harv. Div. Sch., 1890; ordained Dec. 6, 1894.

THE THIRD RELIGIOUS SOCIETY IN DORCHESTER.

The Church and Society was organized in 1813.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1813, on the lot on Washington Street at the head of what is now Richmond Street. Dedicated on Oct. 13, 1813. The Second Church was built on the present site on Richmond Street in 1840, and dedicated on October 28 of that year. This church was remodelled in 1881.

MINISTERS.

REV. EDWARD RICHMOND, born in Middleboro, June 29, 1767; Brown Univ., 1789; D.D., 1815; installed June 25, 1817 — 1833; died April 10, 1842.

REV. FRANCIS CUNNINGHAM, born in Boston, March 9, 1804; H. C., 1825; ordained May 21, 1834 — June 1, 1842; died in France, Sept. 7, 1867.

REV. RICHARD PIKE, born in Prospect, Me., June 6, 1813; Bowd. Coll., 1836; ordained Feb. 8, 1843; died Feb. 18, 1863.

REV. THOMAS J. MUMFORD, born in Gillisonville, S. C., June 26, 1826 ; Meadville, 1849 ; installed March 2, 1864 — 1872 ; died Aug. 29, 1877.

REV. HENRY G. SPAULDING, born in Spencer ; H. C., 1860 ; Div. Sch., 1864 ; installed Oct. 2, 1873 — Sept., 1877.

REV. GEORGE M. BODGE, born in Windham, Me. ; Bowd. Coll., 1868 ; Harv. Div. Sch., 1878 ; ordained Sept. 26, 1878 — Oct. 31, 1884.

REV. WILLIAM I. LAWRANCE, born in Winchester, O. ; Harv. Div. Sch., 1885 ; installed Oct. 1, 1885 — April 5, 1891.

REV. FREDERICK B. MOTT, born in Leicester, Eng. ; Meadville, 1885 ; installed Feb. 14, 1892.

CHRIST CHURCH, DORCHESTER.

The Society was organized in 1848.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1846, at the corner of Neponset Avenue and Mill Street. The second house, on Dix Street, was dedicated Feb. 9, 1894.

MINISTERS.

REV. CHARLES BROOKS, born in Medford, Oct. 30, 1795 ; H. C., 1816 ; Div. Sch., 1819. Mr. Brooks was the first preacher. Died in Medford, July 7, 1872.

REV. FRANCIS WILLIAMS, born in Brighton ; H. C., 1843 ; Div. Sch., 1845 ; supplied the pulpit for one year (see Hyde Park).

REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON, born in Salem, Oct. 10, 1822 ; H. C., 1839 ; Div. Sch., 1846 ; supplied the pulpit for several months ; died in North Andover, Feb. 19, 1882.

REV. STEPHEN G. BULFINCH, born in Boston, June 18, 1809; Columbian Univ., 1827; Harv. Div. Sch., 1830; installed Aug. 1, 1852 — May 4, 1863; died in Cambridge, Oct. 12, 1870.

REV. J. B. MARVIN, settled January, 1865 — January, 1867.

REV. FREDERIC HINCKLEY, born in Boston, Nov. 3, 1820; Harv. Div. Sch., 1848; installed March 3, 1867 — July 1, 1870; died in Barnstable, Dec. 18, 1891.

REV. HENRY C. BADGER, born in Munroe Co., N. Y.; Antioch Coll., 1857; January, 1871 — December, 1873; died in 1894.

REV. NATHANIEL SEAVER, born in Boston; Harv. Div. Sch., 1864; installed February, 1874 — 1875.

REV. CALEB D. BRADLEE, born in Boston, Feb. 24, 1831; H. C., 1852; Div. Sch., 1854; installed June 4, 1876 — June 1, 1890; died in Brookline, May 1, 1897.

REV. WILLIAM ROGERS LORD, installed as colleague with Mr. Bradlee 1887 — 1895.

REV. BENJ. A. GOODRIDGE, born in Lyndborough, N. H.; Boston Univ., 1881; Harv. Div. Sch., 1890; installed April 3, 1895.

CHURCH OF THE UNITY, NEPONSET.

The Society was organized May 8, 1859.

The church building was erected by the Methodists in 1851.

Purchased by the Unitarians, and first used by them May 8, 1859.

MINISTERS.

REV. FREDERICK W. HOLLAND, born in Boston, June 22, 1811; H. C., 1831; Div. Sch., 1834; installed June 5, 1859 — April 6, 1862.

REV. CHARLES B. WEBSTER, ordained June 4, 1863; resigned Nov. 14, 1863, to enter the Union Army; died in the service.

REV. SAMUEL W. MCDANIEL, born in Philadelphia; settled 1864 — 1866.

REV. HASKET D. CATLIN, born in Staten Island, N. Y.; Yale, 1859; Div. Sch., 1862; ordained May, 1867 — October, 1870.

REV. ALFRED C. NICKERSON, born in Nantucket; Harv. Div. Sch., 1871; ordained Oct. 31, 1871 — Oct. 28, 1878.

REV. CHARLES B. ELDER, born in Portland, Me.; Brown Univ., 1877; Harv. Div. Sch., 1880; ordained Oct. 6, 1880 — July 1, 1884.

REV. HENRY H. WOUDE, born in Clifton, Eng.; Meadville, 1875; installed 1885 — 1887.

REV. GEORGE H. HOSMER, born in Buffalo, N. Y., May 14, 1839; Meadville, 1866; installed Jan. 1, 1887 — August, 1897; died July 2, 1899.

REV. GEORGE E. LITTLEFIELD, born in Randolph; installed 1898 — October, 1900.

NORFOLK UNITARIAN CHURCH.

The Society was organized in 1889.

First church building was dedicated Oct. 30, 1890.

MINISTERS.

REV. CALEB D. BRADLEE, D.D. (see Christ Church, ninth minister); installed June 1, 1890 — June 1, 1892; died May 1, 1897.

REV. SOLON LAUER, born in Willoughby, O.; Meadville, 1885; installed April, 1892 — April, 1893.

REV. WILLIAM H. BRANIGAN, born in South Boston; Harv. Div. Sch., 1884; installed Nov. 15, 1893 — November, 1898.

REV. BENJ. F. MCDANIEL, born in Philadelphia, Pa.; Harv. Div. Sch., 1869; installed Sept. 10, 1899.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL PARISH, CANTON.

The Society was organized and the Church gathered Oct. 30, 1717.

The First Meeting-house was built previous to 1705; the second in 1707. The third house was dedicated Oct. 26, 1747. The fourth was built in 1824, and dedicated Jan. 26, 1825.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOSEPH MORSE, born in Medfield, May 25, 1671; H. C., 1695; ordained Oct. 30, 1717; died Nov. 29, 1732.

REV. SAMUEL DUNBAR, born in Boston; Oct. 2, 1704; H. C., 1723; ordained Nov. 15, 1727; died June 15, 1783.

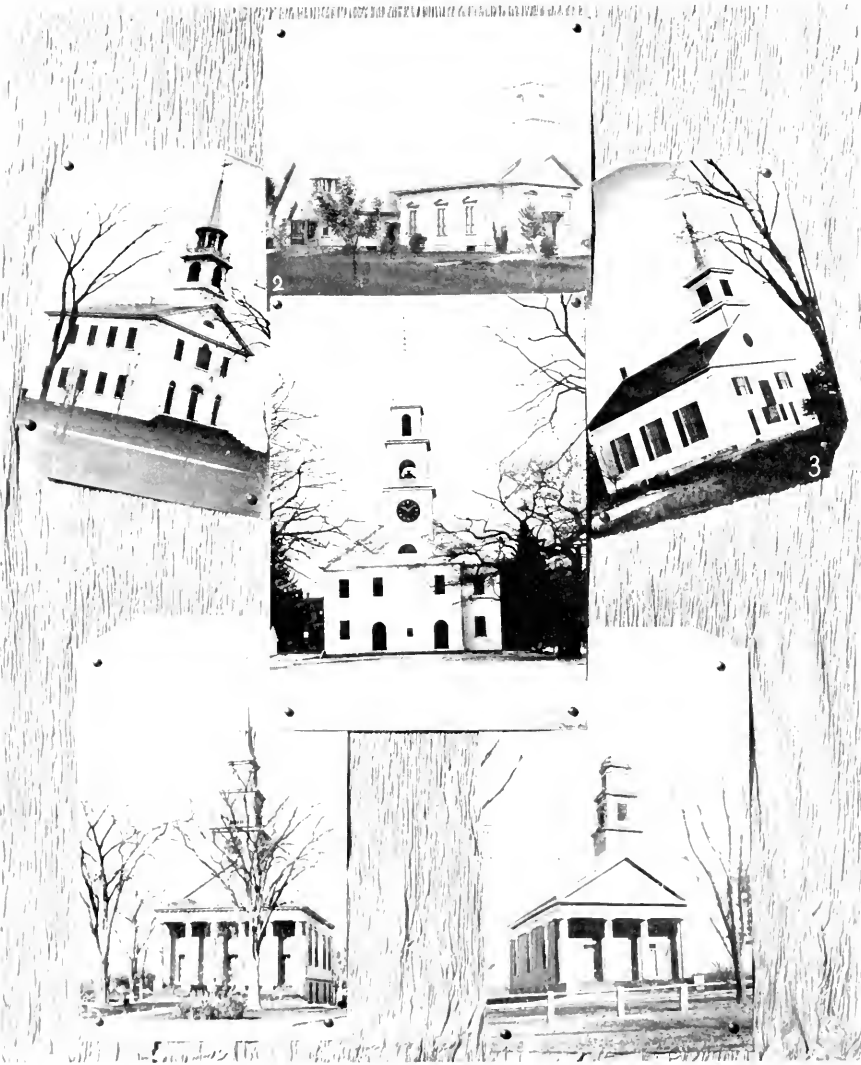
REV. ZECHARIAH HOWARD, born in Bridgewater, May 1, 1758; H. C., 1784; ordained Oct. 25, 1786; died Sept. 18, 1806.

REV. WILLIAM RICHEY, born in Peterborough, N. H., March 25, 1781; Dartmouth, 1804; ordained July 1, 1807 — June 30, 1820 (see Needham); died Feb. 22, 1842.

REV. BENJAMIN HUNTOON, born in Salisbury, Nov. 28, 1792; Dartmouth, 1817; ordained Jan. 30, 1822 — 1829. He was recalled and reinstalled March 13, 1841 — 1849.

REV. HENRY F. EDES, born in Providence, R. I., Aug. 8, 1808; Brown Univ., 1828; Harv. Div. Sch., 1831; ordained Oct. 26, 1831 — Oct. 28, 1833; died March 13, 1881.

REV. ORESTES A. BROWNSON, born near Stockbridge, Vt., Sept. 16, 1803; installed May 14, 1834 — May 28, 1835; died in Detroit, Mich., April 17, 1876.



DEDHAM GROUP

1. WESTWOOD
2. NEEDHAM

3. DOVER
4. FIRST CHURCH, DEDHAM

5. MEDFIELD
6. WALPOLE

REV. ROBERT ROGERS, born in Boston, Aug. 29, 1824; H. C., 1844; Div. Sch., 1849; ordained Jan. 9, 1850 — November, 1852.

REV. SETH SALTMARSH, installed Sept. 18, 1853 — July 6, 1856.

REV. NATHAN H. CHAMBERLAIN, born in Sandwich, Dec. 25, 1830; H. C., 1853; Div. Sch., 1855; ordained April 22, 1857 — Feb. 26, 1860.

REV. EDWARD C. GUILD, born in Brookline, Feb. 9, 1832; H. C., 1853; Div. Sch., 1857; installed Sept. 11, 1861 — Oct. 1, 1866; died Nov. 6, 1899.

REV. GEORGE F. PIPER, born in Boston; Harv. Div. Sch., 1860; installed Aug. 1, 1867 — Oct. 2, 1872.

REV. WILLIAM H. SAVARY, born in Groveland; Yale, 1857; Harv. Div. Sch., 1862; installed June 8, 1873 — Jan. 25, 1885.

REV. HENRY F. JENKS, born in Boston; H. C., 1863; Div. Sch., 1866; installed July 1, 1885.

FIRST PARISH IN DEDHAM.

The First Church in Dedham was gathered Nov. 8, 1638.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1638, on the spot now occupied by the Unitarian meeting-house. The second house was built there in 1673. The third and present house was built in 1763, though greatly enlarged and modified since.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOHN ALLIN, born in England, 1596; came to America 1637; ordained at Dedham, April 24, 1639; died Aug. 21, 1671.

REV. WILLIAM ADAMS, born in Ipswich, May 27, 1650; H. C., 1671; ordained Dec. 3, 1673; died Aug. 17, 1685.

REV. JOSEPH BELCHER, born in Milton, May 14, 1668; H. C., 1690; ordained Nov. 29, 1693; died April 27, 1723.

REV. SAMUEL DEXTER, born in Malden, Oct. 23, 1700; H. C., 1720; ordained May 6, 1724; died Jan. 29, 1755.

REV. JASON HAVEN, born in Framingham, March 2, 1733; H. C., 1754; ordained Feb. 5, 1756; died May 17, 1803.

REV. JOSHUA BATES, born in Cohasset, March 20, 1776; H. C., 1800; ordained colleague with Mr. Haven March 16, 1803 — Feb. 20, 1818; died in 1854.

REV. ALVAN LAMSON, born in Weston, Nov. 18, 1792; H. C., 1814; ordained Oct. 29, 1818 — Oct. 28, 1860; died July 18, 1864.

REV. BENJ. H. BAILEY, born in Bolton; H. C., 1854; Div. Sch., 860; ordained March 14, 1861 — Dec. 1, 1867.

REV. GEORGE M. FOLSOM, born in Cambridge, Feb. 6, 1837; H. C., 1857; Div. Sch., 1866; installed March 31, 1869 — July 1, 1875; died in Boston, May 20, 1882.

REV. SETH C. BEACH, born in Marion, N. Y., Aug. 8, 1837; Union Coll., 1863; Harv. Div. Sch., 1866; installed Dec. 29, 1875 — Nov. 25, 1888.

REV. WILLIAM H. FISH, Jr., born in Millville in 1865; Div. Sch., 1869; installed April 3, 1889 — Oct. 31, 1897.

REV. J. WORSLEY AUSTIN, born in England; installed Oct. 5, 1898.

FIRST PARISH, WESTWOOD.

The Society was organized as the "Clapboard Trees Parish," June 4, 1735, and the Church was gathered at the same date.

The First Meeting-house was raised in 1731. The second house was built in 1809.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOSIAH DWIGHT, born in Dedham, Feb. 8, 1670; H. C., 1687; installed June 4, 1735 — May 16, 1743; died in 1748, at Thompson, Conn.

REV. ANDREW TYLER, born in Boston, Aug. 20, 1719; H. C., 1738; ordained Nov. 30, 1743 — Dec. 17, 1772; died in Boston, 1775.

REV. THOMAS THACHER, born in Boston, Oct. 24, 1756; H. C., 1775; ordained June 4, 1780; died Oct. 19, 1812.

REV. JOHN WHITE, born in Concord, Dec. 22, 1787; H. C., 1805; ordained April 20, 1814; died Feb. 1, 1852.

REV. CALVIN S. LOCKE, born in Acworth, N. H.; H. C., 1849; Div. Sch., 1854; ordained Dec. 6, 1854 — June 20, 1864.

REV. ELISHA GIFFORD, born in Patterson, N. Y., Sept. 8, 1833; Harv. Div. Sch., 1867; installed Sept. 11, 1867 — June 15, 1872.

REV. EDWARD CROWNINSHIELD, born in Marblehead, Sept. 8, 1840; Harv. Div. Sch., 1870; installed Jan. 1, 1873 — May 31, 1879.

REV. GEO. W. COOKE, Meadville, 1871; installed Dec. 1, 1880 — June 13, 1887.

REV. W. J. H. HOGAN, ordained Oct. 24, 1888 — Oct. 5, 1890.

REV. OBED ELDRIDGE, born in Sandwich, Dec. 6, 1838; self-educated; installed May 31, 1891; died Dec. 14, 1895.

REV. THOMAS E. ALLEN, Meadville, 1888; installed May 14, 1896 — Oct. 1, 1898.

REV. GEORGE M. BODGE, born in Windham, Me.; Bowd. Coll., 1868; Harv. Div. Sch., 1878; installed Feb. 19, 1899.

FIRST PARISH, DOVER.

The Society was organized by separation from the First Parish of Dedham, as the West Precinct, or Springfield Parish, in 1750.

The First Meeting-house was raised Aug. 30, 1750. The second and present church was built in 1811.

MINISTERS.

For the first twelve years the pulpit was supplied by many different preachers without definite settlement, though several attempts were made.

REV. BENJAMIN CARYL, born in Hopkinton, 1732; H. C., 1761; ordained Nov. 10, 1762; died Nov. 14, 1811.

REV. RALPH SAWYER, born in Bridgewater; H. C., 1808; ordained Sept. 16, 1812; died 1860.

REV. EDWARD BARKER, born in England; Meadville, 1855; ordained Dec. 8, 1858 — Dec. 8, 1860.

REV. GEORGE PROCTOR, born in Chelmsford, Sept. 14, 1814; settled April, 1863 — April, 1868.

REV. CALVIN S. LOCKE (see Westwood); settled at Dover from 1860–1871.

REV. EUGENE DE NORMANDIE, minister of Sherborn, supplied the pulpit, 1880 — 1888.

REV. GEORGE H. BADGER, minister at South Natick, supplied the pulpit, 1888 — 1892.

REV. OBED ELDRIDGE, minister of the West Dedham Parish, supplied, 1892 — 1895.

REV. PHILIP S. THACHER, minister of the Needham Parish, supplied, 1895.

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY, HYDE PARK.

The Society was started June 1, 1867; organized June 3, 1868.

The First and Present Meeting-house was dedicated Feb. 18, 1875.

MINISTERS.

REV. TROWBRIDGE B. FORBUSH (see West Roxbury), supplied November, 1867 — April, 1868.

REV. WILLIAM HAMILTON, Miami Univ., 1866; Yale Div. Sch., 1877; settled Sept. 16, 1868 — April 13, 1869.

REV. FRANCIS C. WILLIAMS, born in Brighton, Nov. 2, 1824; H. C., 1843; Div. Sch., 1845; installed April 24, 1870 — June 4, 1879.

REV. ADONIRAM J. RICH, born in Cooper, Me.; Waterville Coll., three years; Union Seminary, N. Y., 1863; installed January, 1880 — October, 1883.

REV. JAMES HUXTABLE, born in England; installed June, 1884 — May 1, 1890.

REV. EDMUND Q. S. OSGOOD, born in Cohasset; H. C., 1875; Div. Sch., 1878; installed Nov. 23, 1890 — Dec. 1, 1894.

REV. ARTHUR G. PETTINGILL, born in Brewer, Me.; Bowd. Coll., 1881; Yale Div. Sch., 1884; installed Oct. 6, 1895 — January, 1899.

REV. WILLIAM H. SAVAGE, born in Norridgewock, Me.; Bowd. Coll., 1858; Andover, 1867; installed Feb. 21, 1900.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL PARISH, MILTON.

This Society was first formally organized by the gathering of a Church, April 24, 1678.

The First Meeting-house was built about 1660, at the head of what is now Churchill's Lane. The second house was erected in 1671, on Centre Street. The third house was built on the site directly in front of the present Unitarian Church in 1728. The fourth meeting-house, now in use by that parish, was built in 1787, and dedicated Jan. 1, 1788; enlarged and modified several times since; viz., 1835, 1851, and 1871.

MINISTERS.

REV. PETER THACHER, born in Salem, July 18, 1651; H. C., 1671; ordained June 1, 1681; died Dec. 17, 1727.

REV. JOHN TAYLOR, born in Boston, Feb. 2, 1693; H. C., 1721; ordained Nov. 13, 1728; died Jan. 26, 1750.

REV. NATHANIEL ROBBINS, born in West Cambridge, April 17, 1726; H. C., 1747; ordained Feb. 13, 1751; died May 19, 1795.

REV. JOSEPH MCKEAN, born in Ipswich, 1776; H. C., 1794; ordained Nov. 1, 1797 — Sept. 30, 1804; died in Havana, W. I., 1818.

REV. SAMUEL GILE, born in Plaistow, N. H., July 23, 1780; Dartmouth, 1804; ordained Feb. 18, 1807 — Jan. 20, 1834; died Oct. 16, 1836.

REV. BENJAMIN HUNTOON, born in Salisbury, N. H., Nov. 28, 1792; Dartmouth, 1817; installed Oct. 15, 1834 — June 20, 1837 (see Canton).

REV. JOSEPH ANGIER, born in Durham, N. H., April 24, 1808; H. C., 1829; Div. Sch., 1832; installed Sept. 13, 1837 — June 22, 1845; died in Milton, April 12, 1871.

REV. JOHN H. MORISON, born in Peterboro', N. H., July 25, 1806; H. C., 1831; D.D., 1858; installed Jan. 18,

1846; senior pastor from 1871–1886; died in Boston, April 26, 1896.

REV. FRANCIS T. WASHBURN, born in Boston, Sept. 24, 1843; H. C., 1864; installed associate with Dr. Morison March 2, 1871; died Dec. 29, 1873.

REV. FREDERICK FROTHINGHAM, born in Montreal, Que., April 9, 1825; H. C., 1849; Div. Sch., 1855; installed associate with Dr. Morison Oct. 8, 1876; died in Milton, March 19, 1891.

REV. RODERICK STEBBINS, born in Portland, Me.; H. C., 1881; Div. Sch., 1886; ordained junior pastor with Mr. Frothingham June 23, 1886.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL PARISH IN MEDFIELD.

The Church and Society were organized in 1651.

The First Meeting-house was erected probably in 1653, on the spot now occupied by the third house. The second house was built there in 1706; the third house, on the same site, in 1789; remodelled in 1839.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOHN WILSON, born in England, September, 1621, son of Rev. John Wilson, the first minister of Boston; H. C., 1642 (the first class); settled 1651; died Aug. 23, 1691.

REV. JOSEPH BAXTER, born in Braintree, 1676; H. C., 1693; ordained April 21, 1697; died May 2, 1745.

REV. JONATHAN TOWNSEND, born in Needham, 1721; H. C., 1741; ordained Oct. 23, 1745 — 1769; died in Dedham, 1776.

REV. THOMAS PRENTISS, born in Holliston, 1747; H. C., 1766; ordained Oct. 31, 1771; died in 1814.

REV. DANIEL C. SANDERS, born in Sturbridge, 1768; H. C., 1788; installed 1818 — May 24, 1829.

REV. JAMES A. KENDALL, born in Plymouth, Nov. 1, 1803; H. C., 1823; Div. Sch., 1826; ordained Nov. 30, 1830 — April 1, 1837; died in Framingham, May 16, 1884.

REV. CHARLES ROBINSON, born in Exeter, N. H., July 25, 1793; H. C., 1818; Div. Sch., 1822; installed Oct. 16, 1839 — Sept. 1, 1850; died in Groton, April 9, 1862.

REV. RUSHTON D. BURR, born in Haverhill, Feb. 6, 1828; Harv. Div. Sch., 1852; ordained Jan. 12, 1853 — Oct. 4, 1857; died at Löhne, Germany, May 8, 1893.

REV. SOLON W. BUSH, born in Newport, R. I., Feb. 11, 1819; Brown Univ., 1845; Harv. Div. Sch., 1848; installed Dec. 24, 1857 — January, 1865; died in Boston, March 19, 1898.

REV. JAMES H. WIGGIN, born in Boston, 1836; Meadville, 1858; installed Oct. 6, 1867 — March 1, 1873; died in Boston, Nov. 1, 1900.

REV. CHARLES C. SEWALL, born in Marblehead, 1802; H. C., A.M. (Honorary), 1832; settled as regular supply, not installed, Spring, 1873 — March, 1877; died 1886.

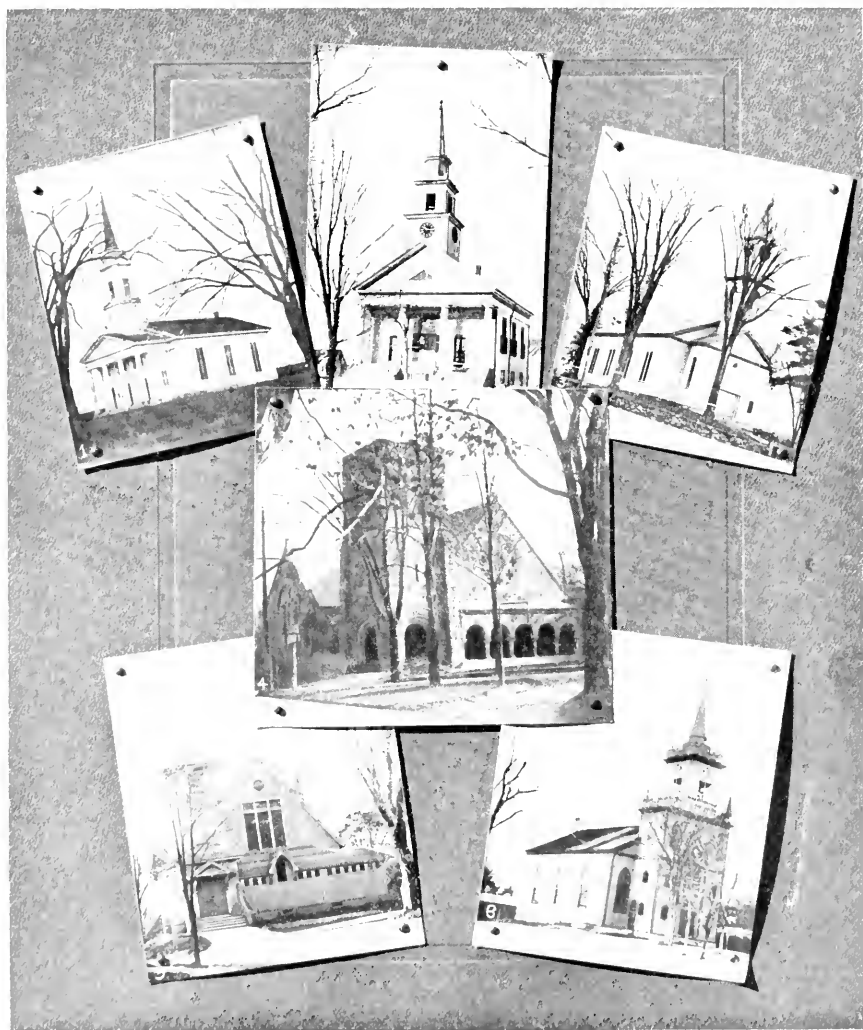
REV. GRANVILLE PIERCE, born in Townsend; Meadville, 1871; installed Nov. 8, 1877 — May 1, 1881.

REV. JOSEPH N. PARDEE, born in Oriskany Falls, N. Y.; Harv. Div. Sch., 1872; installed Feb. 1, 1882 — May 1, 1884.

REV. J. J. TWISS, installed July 6, 1884 — May 1, 1887.

REV. W. W. HAYWARD, born in Hancock, Oct. 17, 1834; installed Oct. 1, 1888; died July 26, 1892.

REV. JOHN A. SAVAGE, born at St. Francis, Me.; Victoria Coll., Ont., and Meadville, 1880; installed November, 1892.



BROOKLINE GROUP

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. SHERBORN | 3. SOUTH NATICK | 5. HYDE PARK |
| 2. SHARON | 4. BROOKLINE | 6. CANTON |

THE FIRST PARISH IN BROOKLINE.

The Society was organized and Church gathered Oct. 26, 1717.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1714; the second, in 1806; the third in 1848; and the fourth, and present, in 1893.

MINISTERS.

REV. JAMES ALLEN, born in Roxbury; H. C., 1710; ordained Nov. 5, 1718; died Feb. 18, 1847.

REV. COTTON BROWN, born in Haverhill; H. C., 1743; ordained Oct. 26, 1748; died 1751.

REV. NATHANIEL POTTER, born in Elizabethtown, N. J.; Princeton Coll., 1753; ordained Nov. 19, 1755 — June 17, 1769.

REV. JOSEPH JACKSON, born in Dorchester, 1734; H. C., 1758; ordained April 9, 1760; died July 22, 1762.

REV. JOHN PIERCE, born in Dorchester, July 14, 1773; H. C., 1793; ordained March 15, 1797; died Aug. 14, 1849.

REV. FREDERIC N. KNAPP, born in Jamaica Plain, Nov. 19, 1821; H. C., 1843; Div. Sch., 1847; ordained as colleague to Dr. Pierce Oct. 6, 1847 — Sept. 26, 1855; died Jan. 12, 1889.

REV. FREDERIC H. HEDGE, born in Cambridge, Dec. 12, 1805; H. C., 1825; Div. Sch., 1828; settled October, 1856 — June 27, 1872; died in Cambridge, Aug. 21, 1890.

REV. HOWARD N. BROWN, born in Columbia, N. Y.; Harv. Div. Sch., 1871; ordained June 25, 1873 — May 12, 1895.

REV. WILLIAM H. LYON, born in Fall River; Brown Univ., 1868; Harv. Div. Sch., 1873; installed May 8, 1896.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY, NEEDHAM.

The Society was established in 1711, and the Parish was organized regularly and a Church gathered March 23, 1720.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1712, and was burned down in October, 1773. The second was built in 1774, repaired and largely remodelled in 1811. The third meeting-house was built in 1835.

MINISTERS.

REV. JONATHAN TOWNSEND, born in Lynn, 1698; H. C., 1716; ordained March 23, 1720 — Sept. 30, 1762.

REV. SAMUEL WEST, born in Martha's Vineyard, 1738; H. C., 1761; ordained April 25, 1764 — Nov. 2, 1788; died April 10, 1808.

REV. STEPHEN PALMER, born in Norton, 1766; H. C., 1789; ordained Nov. 7, 1792; died Oct. 31, 1821.

REV. WILLIAM RITCHIE, born in Peterboro', N. H., March 25, 1781; Dartmouth, 1804; installed Dec. 12, 1821 — Dec. 17, 1841; died Feb. 22, 1842 (see Canton, Richey).

REV. LYMAN MAYNARD, installed Sept. 8, 1842 — 1846.

REV. C. H. A. DALL, born in Baltimore, Md., Feb. 12, 1816; H. C., 1837; Div. Sch., 1840; installed Feb. 7, 1847 — Dec. 1, 1849; died in Calcutta, India, July 8, 1886.

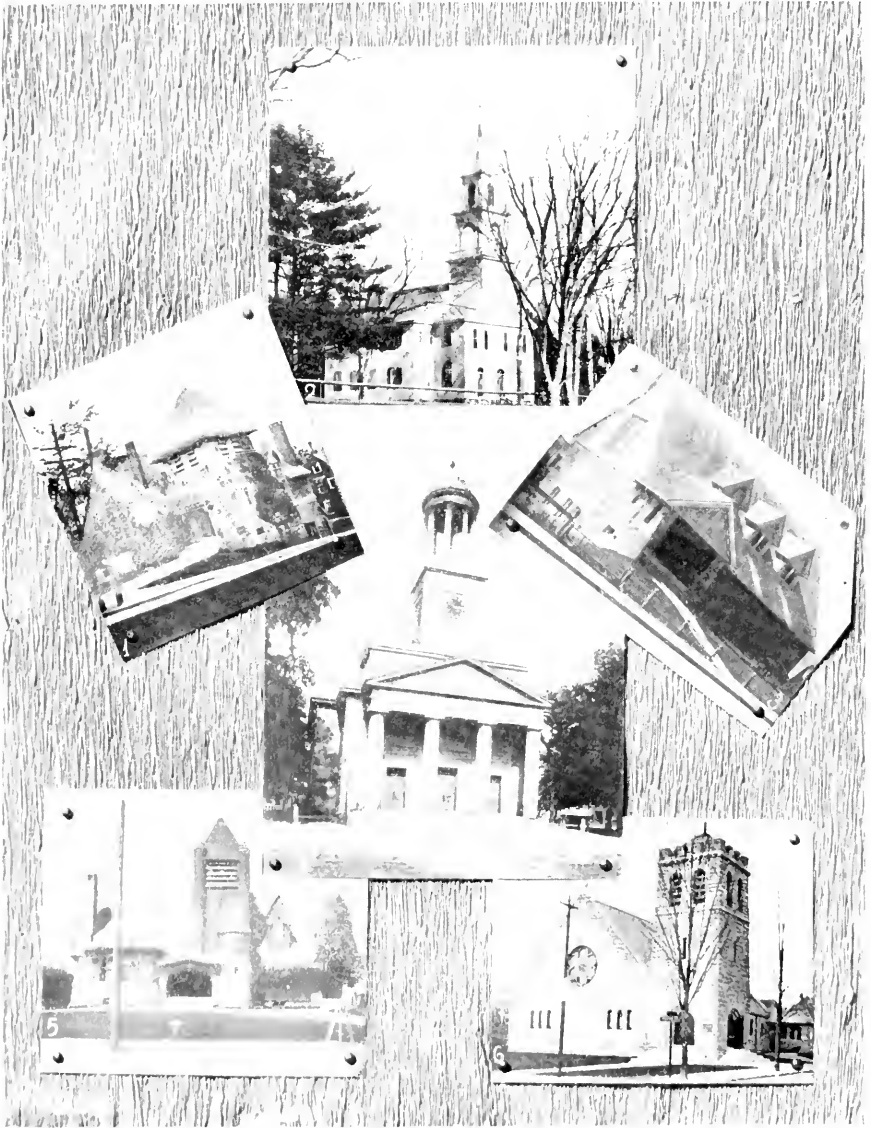
REV. JAMES F. HICKS, installed July 14, 1852 — December, 1853.

REV. GEORGE G. CHANNING, born in Newport, R. I., May 6, 1789; supplied 1854 and 1855.

REV. ANDREW N. ADAMS, born in Fairhaven, Vt., Jan. 30, 1830; Harv. Div. Sch., 1855; ordained Nov. 21, 1855 — June, 1857.

REV. WILLIAM BARRY, born in Boston, Jan. 10, 1805; Brown Univ., 1822; Harv. Div. Sch., 1829; supplied for a while; died in Chicago, Jan. 17, 1885.





QUINCY GROUP

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. WOLLASTON | 3. ROSLINDALE | 5. RANDOLPH |
| 2. OLD THEODORE PARKER CHURCH | 4. FIRST CHURCH, QUINCY | 6. FIRST CHURCH, WEST ROXBURY |

REV. GEORGE H. EMERSON, of the Universalist fellowship, supplied for several years.

REV. ALBERT B. VORSE, born in Lewisburg, Pa., Nov. 27, 1831; Meadville, 1862; settled 1869 — 1871; died Jan. 21, 1899.

REV. SOLON W. BUSH, born in Newport, R. I., Feb. 11, 1819; Brown Univ., 1845; Harv. Div. Sch., 1848; settled February, 1870 — Feb. 19, 1889; died in Boston, March 19, 1898.

REV. CHARLES A. ALLEN, born in North Andover; H. C., 1858; Meadville, 1864; settled Nov. 3, 1889 — May, 1893.

REV. PHILIP S. THACHER, born in Wordsley, England; Meadville, 1876; installed January, 1894.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY, QUINCY.

Organized Sept. 16, 1639, as the "Church in Braintree," until 1708; from 1708 to 1792, "North Precinct Church;" in 1792 and on, the "First Congregational Society in Quincy."

First Meeting-house built sometime before 1641; the second probably in 1666. The third house was built in 1732; the fourth in 1830.

MINISTERS.

REV. WILLIAM TOMPSON, born in Lancashire, England, 1597; Oxford, 1620; ordained Nov. 19, 1639 — 1659; died Dec. 10, 1666.

REV. HENRY FLYNT, born in Matlock, Derbyshire, England, about 1606; ordained as colleague and teacher with Mr. Tompson March 17, 1640; died April 27, 1668.

REV. MOSES FISKE, born in Wenham, April 12, 1642; H. C., 1662; ordained Sept. 11, 1672; died Aug. 10, 1708.

REV. JOSEPH MARSH, born in Hadley, Jan. 6, 1685; H. C., 1705; ordained May 18, 1709; died March 8, 1726.

REV. JOHN HANCOCK, born in Lexington, June 1, 1702; H. C., 1719; ordained Nov. 2, 1726; died May 7, 1774.

REV. LEMUEL BRIANT, born in Scituate, 1722; H. C., 1739; ordained Dec. 4, 1745 — Oct. 22, 1753; died 1754.

REV. ANTHONY WIBIRD, born in Portsmouth, N. H., 1728; H. C., 1747; ordained Feb. 5, 1755; died June 4, 1800.

REV. PETER WHITNEY, born in Northboro', Jan. 19, 1770; H. C., 1791; ordained colleague with Mr. Wibird Feb. 5, 1800; died March 3, 1843.

REV. WILLIAM P. LUNT, born in Newburyport, April 21, 1805; H. C., 1823; installed as colleague with Mr. Whitney June 3, 1835; died at Akabah, Arabia, March 21, 1857.

REV. JOHN D. WELLS, born at Kennebunk, Me., Dec. 13, 1834; H. C., 1854; Div. Sch., 1860; ordained Dec. 27, 1860 — May 28, 1876.

REV. DANIEL M. WILSON, born in Paisley, Scotland; Harv. Div. Sch., 1872; installed March 24, 1880 — Dec. 30, 1892.

REV. ELLERY C. BUTLER, born in New York; Meadville, 1866; installed June 5, 1894.

CHURCH OF THE UNITY, RANDOLPH.

This Society was organized in 1889.

The Meeting-house was dedicated April 5, 1892.

MINISTERS.

REV. CLARENCE FOWLER, born in Danvers, Sept. 26, 1838; St. Lawrence Univ., 1863; Harv. Div. Sch., 1870; installed June 4, 1890 — Jan. 1, 1893; died in Worcester, April 19, 1893.

REV. CHARLES A. HUMPHREYS, born in Dorchester; H. C., 1860; Div. Sch., 1863; installed April 30, 1893 — Aug. 1, 1899.

REV. WILLIAM S. JONES, born in Exeter, N. H.; Meadville, 1896; Harv. Div. Sch., 1897; installed Nov. 27, 1899.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY, SHARON.

Society organized and Church gathered January, 1742.

The First Meeting-house was completed in 1744. The second house was built in 1787. The third and present house was built in 1842.

MINISTERS.

REV. PHILIP CURTIS, born in Roxbury, Oct. 4, 1717; H. C., 1738; ordained Jan. 5, 1742; died Nov. 22, 1797.

REV. JONATHAN WHITAKER, born in Salem, 1771; H. C., 1797; ordained Feb. 27, 1799 — 1816; died 1835.

REV. THOMAS RICH, settled in 1817.

REV. SAMUEL BRIMBLECOMB, born in Lynn, Feb. 11, 1799; H. C., 1817; Div. Sch., 1820; ordained Dec. 18, 1821 — March 13, 1826; died in Haverhill, July 14, 1879.

REV. JACOB NORTON, born in Abington, Feb. 12, 1764; H. C., 1786; settled 1829 — 1831; died Jan. 17, 1858, aged 93 years.

REV. SAMUEL PETTES, born in Boston, Oct. 12, 1819; Harv. Div. Sch., 1842; ordained May 8, 1844 — March 18, 1847; died in Chicopee, Sept. 17, 1860.

REV. JAMES L. STONE, settled Jan. 1, 1848 — May 5, 1852.

REV. THOMAS H. PONS, born in Boston, June 11, 1812; Harv. Div. Sch., 1844; ordained Sept. 22, 1852 — June 12, 1853; died in Lunenburg, April 6, 1876.

REV. NORWOOD DAMON, settled June, 1854 — July 9, 1856.

REV. CHARLES C. SEWALL, of Medfield, supplied the pulpit from Jan. 1, 1857 to Jan. 1, 1862; occasional preaching until Jan. 4, 1868, when Rev. Geo. W. Stacy supplied till May, 1870.

From May, 1870, the temporary supplies have been Rev. Mr. Tyndall; Rev. John Wills; Rev. Wm. H. Savary, of Canton; Rev. W. G. Todd, and others. Rev. Wm. Orne White, of Brookline, was pastor from September, 1881, to September, 1883; and then Rev. C. C. Carpenter, till January, 1884; Rev. George W. Cooke, stated supply 1887 — 1890; Rev. Rodney W. Walch, 1891 — 1893; Mrs. Eliza M. Hickok, installed 1893 — 1899.

REV. JOHN C. KIMBALL, born in Ipswich; Amherst Coll., 1854; Harv. Div. Sch., 1859; installed Oct. 18, 1900.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY, SHERBORN.

The Church was gathered March 26, 1685.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1685; the second house in 1726; enlarged and remodelled in 1770; the third house, the present, in 1830. All these were built on or very near the original site.

MINISTERS.

REV. DANIEL GOOKIN, born in Cambridge, July 12, 1650; Harvard, 1669; tutor, 1673–1681; ordained March 26, 1685; died at Sherborn, after pastorate of thirty-four years, Jan. 8, 1718.

REV. DANIEL BAKER, born in Dedham, April 18, 1686; H. C., 1706; ordained as colleague with Mr. Gookin 1712; died May 14, 1731.

REV. SAMUEL PORTER, born in Brookfield, 1709; H. C., 1730; ordained Oct. 23, 1734; died Sept. 16, 1758.

REV. SAMUEL LOCKE, born in Lancaster, Nov. 23, 1732; H. C., 1755; ordained Nov. 7, 1759 — Feb. 2, 1770; died Jan. 15, 1777.

REV. ELLIAH BROWN, born in Waltham, May 31, 1744; H. C., 1764; ordained Nov. 28, 1770; died Oct. 24, 1816.

REV. SHEARJASHUB B. TOWNSEND, born in Barrington, R. I., April 14, 1796; Brown Univ., 1814; ordained July 2, 1817; died at Milledgeville, Ga., July 20, 1832.

REV. AMOS CLARKE, born in Sherborn, April 23, 1779; H. C., 1804; ordained as colleague with Mr. Townsend March, 1830 — May 20, 1841; died 1863.

REV. RICHARD C. STONE, born in Scituate, R. I., July 18, 1798; installed Sept. 28, 1842 — October, 1848.

REV. JOHN FLEMING, born in England, Jan. 20, 1820; settled 1850 — 1853.

REV. THEODORE H. DORR, born in Boston, Aug. 13, 1815; H. C., 1835; Div. Sch., 1838; installed Dec. 3, 1854 — May, 1863; died in Sherborn, Aug. 13, 1876.

REV. WILLIAM BROWN, born in Concord; Amherst, 1860; Harv. Div. Sch., 1863; ordained Nov. 5, 1863 — Aug. 31, 1872.

REV. ALFRED E. MULLETT, born in Charlestown; Tufts Coll., 1872; Harv. Div. Sch., 1873; ordained May 13, 1874 — July 1, 1875.

REV. EUGENE DE NORMANDIE, born in Philadelphia; Meadville, 1851; settled Dec. 1, 1876 — 1890.

REV. F. P. S. LAMB and others supplied for several years.

REV. LEVERETT R. DANIELS (see So. Natick), settled in 1893.

UNITARIAN CHURCH, ROSLINDALE.

Society was organized in 1890.

Church was built in 1893 and dedicated October 4 of that year.

MINISTERS.

REV. AUGUSTUS MELLEN HASKELL, born in Poland, Me., Jan. 24, 1832 ; first preacher and pastor, 1891 — April, 1892 (see West Roxbury).

REV. JOEL HASTINGS METCALF, born in Meadville, Pa. ; Meadville, 1890 ; Harv. Div. Sch., 1891 ; installed April 24, 1892 — Oct. 7, 1893.

REV. CHARLES FREDERICK NICHOLSON, installed Jan. 10, 1894 — 1895.

REV. RICHARD WILSON BOYNTON, born in Boston ; Meadville, 1895 ; ordained Sept. 4, 1895 — Oct. 1, 1900.

FIRST PARISH IN WALPOLE.

The First Congregational Society in Walpole was organized 1724.

The First Meeting-house was built in 1726 ; the second, 1783, which was removed to the present site, remodelled, and re-dedicated Dec. 11, 1839.

MINISTERS.

REV. JOSEPH BELCHER, born in Dedham, Oct. 16, 1699 ; H. C., 1723 ; settled May, 1728 — May 5, 1729.

REV. PHILLIPS PAYSON, born in Rowley, 1705 ; H. C., 1724 ; ordained Sept. 16, 1730 ; died Jan. 22, 1778.

REV. GEORGE MOREY, born in Norton, 1749 ; H. C., 1776 ; ordained Nov. 19, 1783 ; died July 26, 1829.

REV. JOHN P. B. STORER, born in Portland, Me., 1793 ; Bowd. Coll., 1812 ; ordained colleague with Mr. Morey Nov. 15, 1826 — 1839 ; died in Syracuse, N. Y., 1845.

REV. JOHN M. MERRICK, born in Lynn; installed Dec. 11, 1839 — 1865; died in Charlestown, N. H., 1869.

REV. WILLIAM BURRITT SMITH, born in Grafton, Dec. 9, 1831; Meadville, 1858; Harv. Div. Sch., 1859; installed Oct. 5, 1865 — Feb. 8, 1874; died at Grafton, June 17, 1886.

REV. F. P. HAMBLETT, installed March 22, 1877 — 1882.

REV. G. H. CLARE, born in Bradford, England; installed Nov. 5, 1890 — November, 1892.

REV. JOSEPH H. WEEKS, born in Provincetown; Tufts Coll., 1871; Tufts Div. Sch., 1873; installed 1883 — February, 1890.

REV. ROBERT W. SAVAGE, born in St. Francis, Me.; Meadville, 1878; installed October, 1893.

WOLLASTON UNITARIAN SOCIETY.

The Society was organized Jan. 31, 1888.

The First and Present Meeting-house was dedicated June 15, 1891.

MINISTERS.

REV. WILLIAM S. KEY, born in Boston, England; installed Jan. 15, 1889 — Jan. 20, 1893.

REV. JAMES E. BAGLEY, born in Craftsbury, Vt.; Meadville; installed Oct. 5, 1893; died March 1, 1899.

REV. FRANK W. PRATT, born in Elgin, Ill.; Meadville; installed Jan. 2, 1900 (see West Roxbury).

FIRST UNITARIAN PARISH, SOUTH NATICK.

This Society was incorporated March 1, 1828, as the South Congregational Parish (now the First Unitarian Parish), or "The Eliot Church."

The Present Meeting-house was dedicated Nov. 20, 1828. It stands upon the spot where the first meeting-house for the Christian Indians was erected by them, under the missionary labors of Rev. John Eliot. This is probably the fifth house in succession from the First Indian Church. The first four were built in 1651, 1700, 1721, and 1749. The last was completed in 1767 and was still standing in 1812.

MINISTERS.

REV. JAMES W. THOMPSON, born in Barre, Dec. 14, 1805; Brown Univ., 1827; Harv. Div. Sch., 1831; ordained Feb. 17, 1830—February, 1832; died at Isles of Shoals, Sept. 22, 1881.

REV. EDWARD PALMER, born in Belfast, Me.; settled Oct. 30, 1833—Sept. 2, 1834.

REV. IRA H. T. BLANCHARD, born in Weymouth, Sept. 9, 1797; H. C., 1817; Div. Sch., 1820; installed Feb. 25, 1835—Feb. 25, 1840; died April 9, 1845.

REV. THOMAS B. GANNETT, born in Cambridge, Feb. 20, 1789; H. C., 1809; Div. Sch., 1812; installed 1843—April 1, 1850; died April 19, 1851.

REV. JAMES THURSTON, born in Newmarket, N. H., Dec. 11, 1806; H. C., 1829; Div. Sch., 1835; settled Oct. 1, 1850—April 2, 1852; died in West Newton, Jan. 13, 1872.

REV. NATHANIEL O. CHAFFEE, 1852—1853.

REV. EDWARD STOWE, settled May 29, 1853—May 29, 1855.

REV. WILLIAM G. BABCOCK, born in Milton, June 20, 1820; H. C., 1841; Div. Sch., 1844; installed June 1, 1857—April 1, 1860.

REV. HORATIO ALGER, born in Revere, Jan. 13, 1832; H. C., 1852; Div. Sch., 1860; settled May, 1860 — 1874; died Nov. 6, 1881.

REV. JOSEPH P. SHEAFE, born in Charlestown; Tufts Coll., 1871; Harv. Div. Sch., 1874; ordained Sept. 30, 1874 — Dec. 31, 1885.

REV. LEVERETT R. DANIELS (see Sherborn).

THE FIRST PARISH OF WEST ROXBURY.

Society organized and Church gathered in 1712.

The First Meeting-house was erected in 1712; the second, in 1773; the third, in 1891-92. The fourth was dedicated Oct. 5, 1900.

MINISTERS.

REV. EBENEZER THAYER, born in Boston; H. C., 1708; ordained Nov. 26, 1712; died March 6, 1733.

REV. NATHANIEL WALTER, born in Roxbury; H. C., 1729; ordained July 10, 1734; died March 11, 1776.

REV. THOMAS ABBOT, born in Charlestown; H. C., 1764; ordained Sept. 29, 1773 — March 10, 1783; died 1789.

REV. JOHN BRADFORD, born in Boston, 1757; H. C., 1774; ordained May 30, 1785; died Jan. 27, 1825.

REV. JOHN FLAGG, born in Boylston, May 9, 1790; H. C., 1816; Div. Sch., 1821; ordained Feb. 2, 1825; died March 14, 1831.

REV. GEORGE WHITNEY, born in Quincy, July 2, 1804; H. C., 1824; Div. Sch., 1829; ordained June 15, 1831 — Feb. 7, 1836; died in Roxbury, April 2, 1842.

REV. THEODORE PARKER, born in Lexington, Aug. 24, 1810; Harv. Div. Sch., 1836; ordained June 21, 1837 — Jan. 3, 1846; died in Florence, Italy, May 10, 1860.

REV. DEXTER CLAPP, born in Westhampton, July 15, 1816; Amherst, 1839; Harv. Div. Sch., 1842; installed Dec. 20, 1848 — Nov. 23, 1851; died in Salem, July 27, 1868.

REV. EDMUND B. WILSON, born in Petersham, Aug. 15, 1820; installed July 18, 1852 — June 1, 1859; died in Salem, June 13, 1895.

REV. TROWBRIDGE B. FORBUSH, born in Westboro, Jan. 15, 1832; Meadville, 1856; installed July 1, 1863 — May 8, 1868; died Jan. 6, 1898.

REV. AUGUSTUS M. HASKELL, born in Poland, Me., Jan. 24, 1832; H. C., 1856; Div. Sch., 1861; installed May 22, 1870 — October, 1891; died in Roslindale, Feb. 24, 1893.

REV. FRANK W. PRATT, born in Elgin, Ill.; Meadville, 1886; ordained Oct. 23, 1891 — Jan. 30, 1895.

REV. ALFRED R. HUSSEY, born in New Bedford, March 22, 1869; H. C., 1892; Div. Sch., 1895; ordained Oct. 2, 1895 — Dec. 3, 1898.

REV. JOHN H. APPLEBEE, born in Davenport, England; Meadville, 1894; Harv. Div. Sch., 1895; installed June 6, 1899.

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